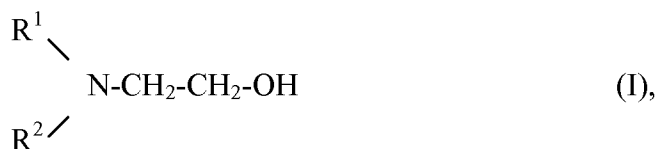


Listing of claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended). A chemical composition comprising:
 - (a) from 0.005 to 3 wt. % of sclerotium gum;
 - (b) from 0.005 to 3 wt. % of a copolymer selected from the group consisting of methyl vinyl ether/ maleic anhydride copolymer and acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer, ~~in particular the ammonium salt of the latter; and~~
 - (c) ~~a suitable~~ an aqueous carrier; and
 - (d) at least 0.5 wt. % of at least one electrolyte, wherein the pH of the composition ranges from about 4.5 to about 8.
2. (Currently Amended). A chemical composition according to claim 1, ~~further comprising (d)~~ one or more electrolytes wherein said copolymer is an ammonium salt of acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer.
3. (Currently Amended). A chemical composition according to claim 1 comprising:
from 0.005 to 1 wt. % of said sclerotium gum and
from 0.005 to 1 wt. % of said copolymer.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Currently Amended). A composition according to claim 1 -4, wherein the electrolyte is ~~an~~ effective amount of at least one ethanolamine derivative of formula I, or a topically acceptable salt thereof:



~~Wherein~~ wherein in formula I, R^1 and R^2 independently represent hydrogen, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally substituted with hydroxy, methoxy, oxo or formyl.

7. (Previously Presented). A formulation according to claim 6 wherein the ethanolamine of formula I is a mixed glycolate/citrate salt of dimethylethanolamine.

8. (Currently Amended) A formulation according to claim 1 ~~5~~, wherein the electrolyte is a Vitamin C salt.

9. (Cancelled).